

# and then it's spring



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YTV



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Julie Fogliano

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Erin E. Stead



A NEAL PORTER BOOK  
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First you have brown,  
all around you have brown

then there are seeds



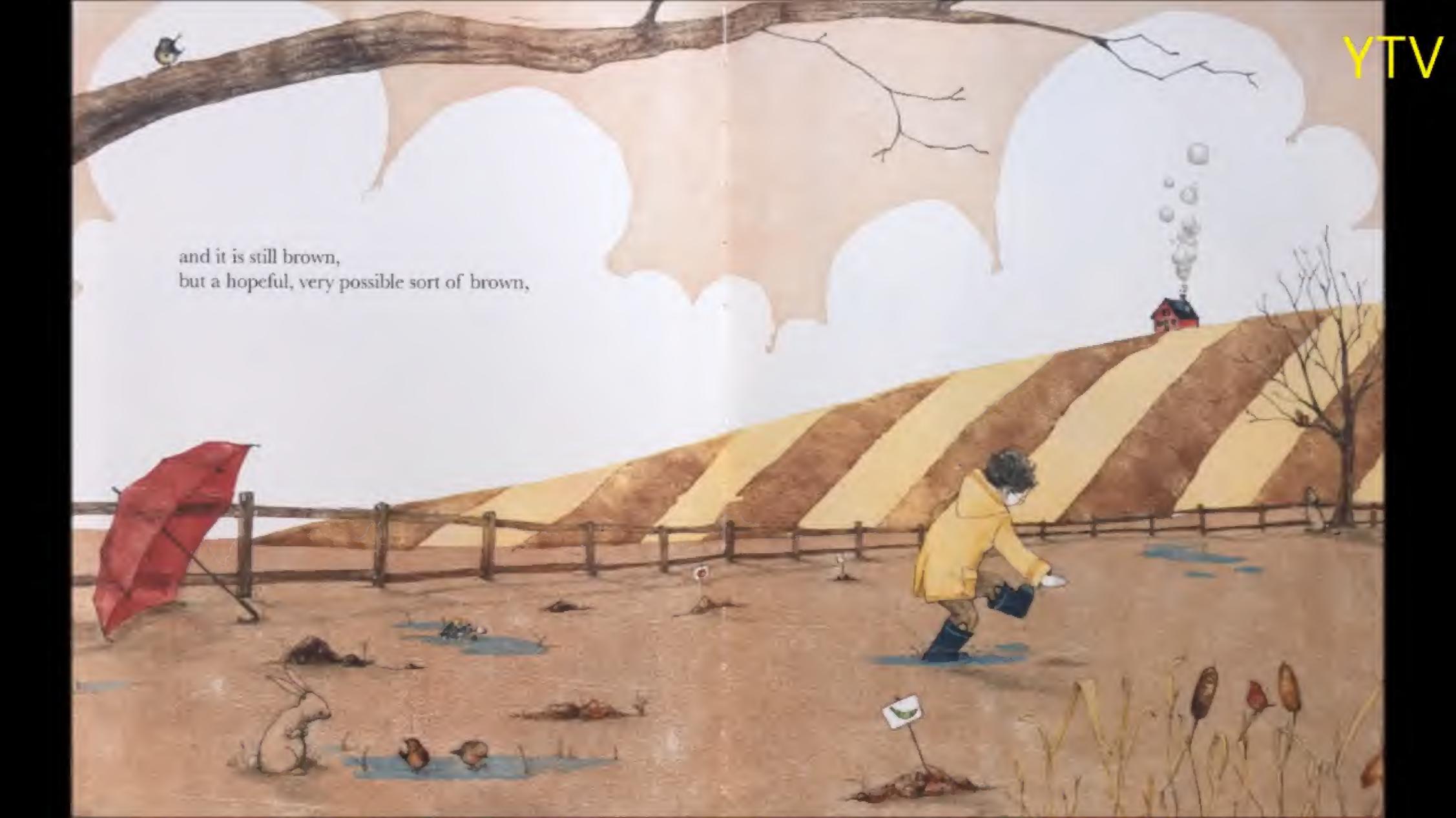


and a wish for rain,



and then it rains

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and it is still brown,  
but a hopeful, very possible sort of brown,



*an is that a little green?*



*no, it's just brown sort of brown*

then it is a week

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and you worry  
about those little seeds

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and if maybe it was the birds,





or maybe it was the bears and all that stomping,  
because bears can't read signs  
that say things like  
"please do not stomp here—  
there are seeds  
and they are trying"

and then it is one more week,





and the brown,  
still brown,  
has a greenish hum  
that you can only hear  
if you put your ear to the ground  
and close your eyes

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and then it is one more week

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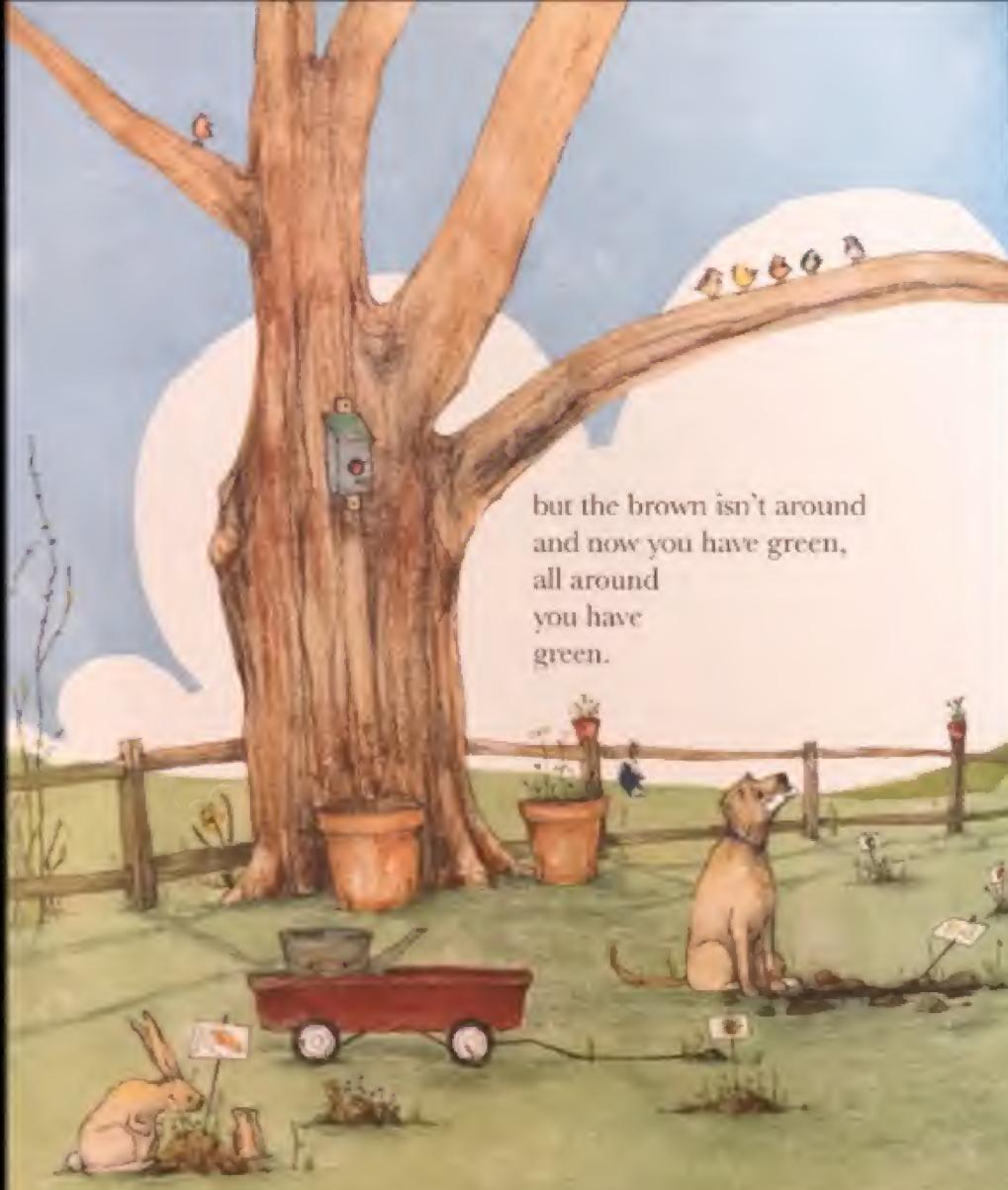
and a sunny day,  
that sunny day that happens  
right after that rainy day



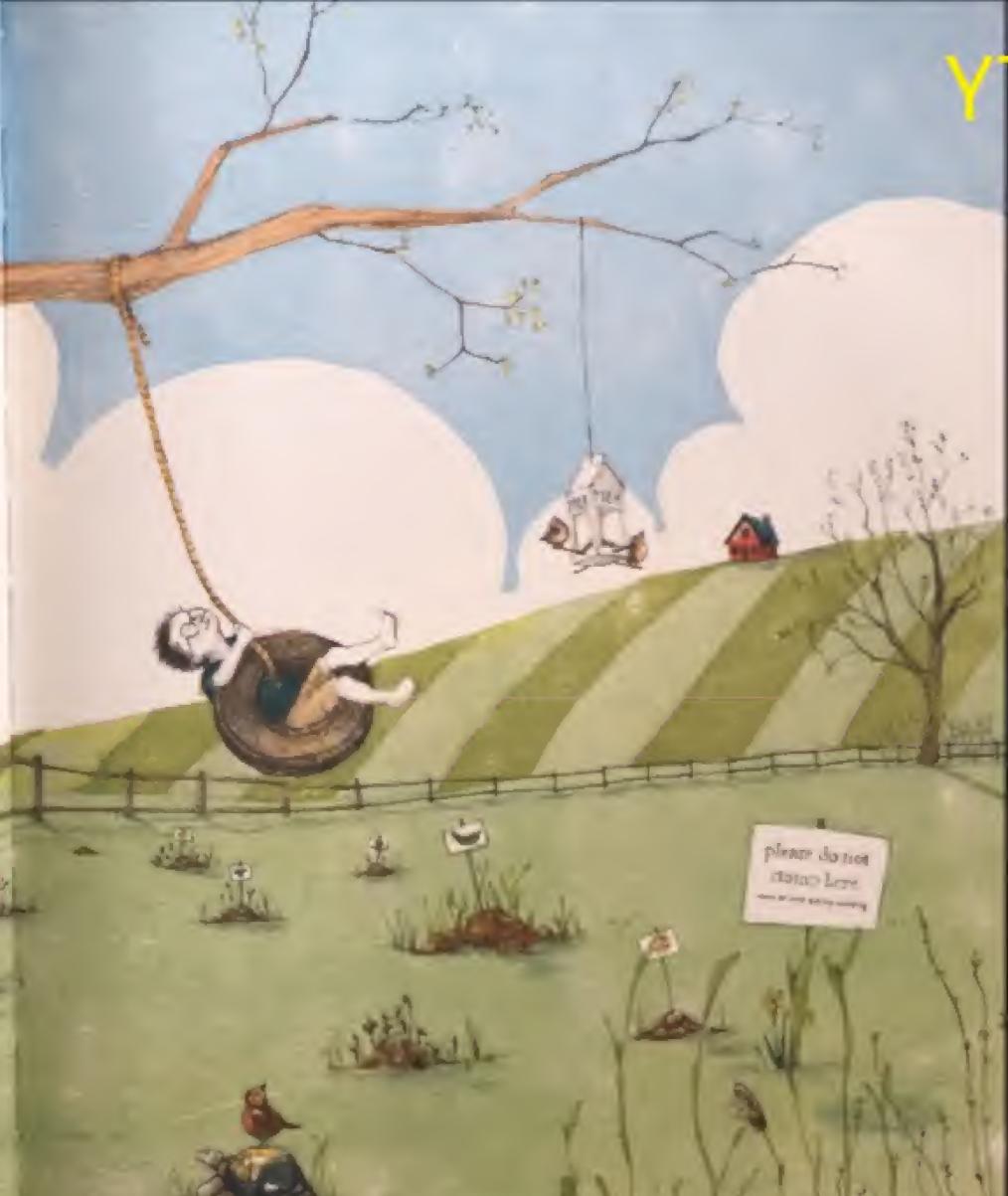
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and you walk outside  
to check on all that brown,



but the brown isn't around  
and now you have green,  
all around  
you have  
green.



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for erzo, nico, and josh,  
who love to go outside and notice things

—j.f.

for julie, josh, george, jason,  
jennifer, nick, patty, and sara

—c.s.



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